

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A tamper evident hinge type closure, comprising:
a body portion that is constructed and arranged to be secured to a container;
a lid portion;
a hinge portion that is attached to said body portion and said lid portion so as to permit said lid portion to be opened from and closed on to said body portion after said closure is first opened; and
at least one tamper evident band mechanically securing said lid portion to said body portion at a position that is distal from said hinge portion, said tamper evident band being integral at a first location with said body portion and further being integral at a second location with said lid portion, whereby said closure may not be opened without defeating said tamper evident band.

2. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 1, wherein said body portion is constructed and arranged to be screwed on to a container, and wherein said body portion further comprises a tamper evident band that is constructed and arranged to become separated from said body portion when said body portion is unscrewed from the container.

3. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 1, wherein said hinge portion comprises an articulated hinge that is constructed and arranged to retain said lid portion in a retracted position with respect to said body portion after opening so as to minimize interference with a consumer who is drinking from the container.

4. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 1, wherein said body portion further comprises a drinking spout that is constructed and arranged to facilitate drinking from the container.

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5. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 1, comprising gripping structure defined on at least one of said body portion and said lid portion for facilitating gripping by a consumer in a direction that is necessary to defeat said tamper evident band during opening.
6. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 5, wherein said gripping structure comprises a gripping projection that is defined on said lid portion.
7. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 6, wherein said gripping projection is shaped and sized to be engaged by a single digit of a consumer.
8. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 7, wherein said gripping projection is shaped and sized to be engaged by a thumb of a consumer.
9. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 6, wherein said gripping projection is positioned substantially above said tamper evident band so as to place stress on said tamper evident band when lifted.
10. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 1, wherein said at least one tamper evident band comprises a plurality of tamper evident bands.
11. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 1, wherein said tamper evident band is fused to said body portion at said first location.
12. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 11, wherein said tamper evident band is sonically fused to said body portion at said first location.

13. A tamper evident hinge type closure according to claim 1, wherein said tamper evident band comprises an area of predetermined frangibility at which failure is designed to occur during opening.

14. A method of making a tamper evident hinge type closure, comprising steps of:

- forming a closure blank that includes a body portion, a hinge portion and a lid portion; and
- securing the body portion to the lid portion at a location that is distal from the hinge portion with at least one frangible tamper evident connection that is integral with both said body portion and said lid portion, whereby a tamper evident closure is formed that may not be opened without defeating said frangible tamper evident connection.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein step (a) comprises forming a closure blank wherein at least one of said body portion and said lid portion includes a band blank projection, and wherein step (b) comprises a step of integrally joining the band blank projection to the other of said body portion and said lid portion.

16. A method according to claim 15, wherein step (a) comprises forming a closure blank wherein said lid portion includes said band blank projection, and wherein step (b) comprises integrally joining the band blank projection to said body portion.

17. A method according to claim 14, wherein step (b) comprises a step of fusing said body portion to said lid portion in order to form said frangible tamper evident connection.

18. A method according to claim 17, wherein said step of fusing is performed by using sonic fusing.

19. A method according to claim 15, wherein said step of integrally joining the band blank projection to the other of said body portion and said lid portion is performed by fusing.

20. A method according to claim 19, wherein said step of fusing is performed by sonic fusing.

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